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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Application of :

ALESSANDRO LAMBIASE

International Appln. No. PCT/IT00/00016

International Filing Dated: 21 January 2000

Filed Concurrently Herewith On July 26, 2001

For: **USE OF NERVE GROWTH FACTOR
FOR THERAPY OF INTRAOCULAR
TISSUE PATHOLOGIES**

New York, New York

July 26, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box PCT

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims

Please substitute the attached annexes to the International Preliminary Examination

Report for pages 30-31 of the published PCT Application WO 00/44396.

Please cancel claims 1-12 and add the following new claims:

--13. A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of a pathology affecting the
internal tissues of an eye, comprising the administration of a composition comprising from 10 to
500 µg/ml of nerve growth factor onto the ocular surface of a subject in need thereof.--

--14. The method of claim 13, wherein the composition comprises the nerve